

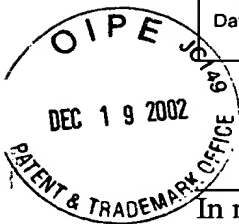
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EU098495419US, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on the date shown below.

Dated: December 19, 2002

Signature:

*Staci Harris*  
(Staci Harris)

Docket No.: HO-P02232US0  
(PATENT)



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Gustav Levander, et al.

Application No.: 09/889,772

Filed: January 12, 2000

For: **MATERIALS FOR PACKAGING  
NICOTINE-CONTAINING PRODUCTS**

Group Art Unit: 1772

Examiner: S. Nolan

#9  
Ked  
12-22-00

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed after the mailing date of a first Office Action, but prior to the receipt of the Notice of Allowance.

A copy of each reference on PTO/SB/08 is attached.

While the information and references disclosed in this Information Disclosure Statement may be "material" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. It is submitted that the Information

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Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

Our check in the amount of \$180.00 covering the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 06-2375, under Order No. 10105701.

Dated: December 19, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Melissa W. Acosta

Registration No.: 45,872

FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI L.L.P.

1301 McKinney, Suite 5100

Houston, Texas 77010-3095

(713) 651-5151

(713) 651-5246 (Fax)